

AAFS Criminalistics Section Disciplines

The following list provides the accepted disciplines within the scope of Criminalistics. Individuals applying for membership and promotion shall be deemed to be participating in employment that supports a forensic-science career if s/he is engaged in research, practice, or management of one or more of these disciplines. As members of the AAFS Membership Committee, the Section Chair and Co-Chair may review and revise the list of accepted disciplines to ensure the best representation of the Section.

In addition to the listed areas, please note the educational requirements for the Criminalistics Section.

Sub-Discipline	Specialty Areas
Biology	Human Body Fluid Identification (including hairs)
	Human DNA analysis
	Wildlife Forensics
Chemistry	Controlled pharmaceutical substances and illicit drugs
	Drug manufacturing chemicals
	Paraphernalia
Firearms and Toolmarks	Firearms and ammunition (bullets and cartridges)
	Manufacturers marks, including serial number restoration
	Toolmarks and impressions
Fire Debris and Explosives	Accelerant and flammable materials
	Explosives chemicals
	Fire and explosion debris
Footwear and Tire	Shoe marks
	Tire marks
	Clothing/fabric marks
Friction Ridge	Finger and palm marks
	Foot marks
	Non friction ridge body prints
Materials (Trace Evidence)	Adhesives, lubricants, and other non-controlled substances
	Cosmetics, dyes, pigments, paint
	Electrical devices and components, including filaments
	Fibers/Hairs
	Glass
	Gunshot/Firearms discharge residues
	Metals and alloys
Soils	